in the Himalaya Mountain, the flow of river Ganga has gone far away from the main source 'Gaumukh';

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and

(d) The steps taken/being taken by the Government to bring back the flow of river Ganga to 'Gaumukh'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) to (d) The river Ganga originates from 'Gaumuk' which is the mouth of the Gangotri glacier. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been carrying out studies on the recession of Gangotri glacier since 1935. As per data available with GSI, Gangotri glacier has receded by 18.80 metres (m)/year during 1935—96 period. The Gangotri glacier showed a higher rate of recession between 1956 and 1996. The highest rate of recession in the order of 38.00m/year was recorded during 1975-76. GSI has not carried out studies on recession of Gangotri glacier since 1996. Studies by other organizations after 1996 have revealed a rate of 12.10 m/year during 2004-05. As far as recession of the glaciers is concerned, it is a natural phenomenon and cannot be stopped using short term artificial measures.

Notification of rules under the Forest Act

*49. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rules under the Forest Act have been notified and the Act enforced;

(b) if so, when and the details thereof; and

(c) whether those tribals evicted from their homes in the absence of the law and the rules have been restored with their homestead?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 has come into force on 31st December, 2007. The rules for the implementation of this Act have also been notified on 1st January, 2008.

(c) The State/UT Governments have to implement the said Act for the recognition of rights of the tribals and other traditional forest dwellers. There is no case reported by the State/UT Governments regarding eviction of tribals since enactment of this Act. However, the Government of India has issued guidelines to the State/UT Governments *vide* its letter dated 21.12.2004 for discontinuance of eviction of tribals.

Proposals for inter-State roads from Rajasthan

†*50. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals of Rajasthan State with regard to inter-State roads are pending with the Central Government;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of estimates of inter-State roads that are pending with Government for technical approval and financial sanction and the time since when they are pending; and

(c) the number of proposals and estimates which have been cleared by Government and when such clearance was accorded and which proposals/estimates are proposed to be cleared in the Budget 2008?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of Rajasthan had forwarded six porposals under the inter-State Connectivity Scheme for the development of State Roads during the year 2007-08. Out of these, three proposals amounting to Rs. 9.95 crore have been sanctioned, one proposal amounting to Rs. 2.67 crore was returned due to certain deficiencies and two proposals amounting to Rs. 7.01crore have been received recently.

(c) The details of estimates, for the works under the scheme of inter- State Connectivity sanctioned by the Government for the State of Rajasthan is since the year 2002-2003 are given below. The number of estimates to be sanctioned during the year 2008-2009 would depend upon the availability of fund, number of estimates forwarded by the State Governments and their *inter-se* priority and therefore it is premature at this stage to give any detail in this regard.

Year	No.	Amount (Rs. in crore)
2002-03	1	1.24
2004-05	2	3.18
2005-06	6	14.40
2006-07	5	12.49
2007-08	3	9.95
TOTAL:	17	41.26

Employees working in shipyards

*51. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permanent employees working in shipyards under the administrative control of his Ministry as on 31st March, 2007, unit-wise; and

(b) the number of contract/casual/contingency workers working in these units as on the 31st March, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There are three Shipyards under the administrative control of Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways, Department of Shipping, *viz.*, Cochin Shipyard